

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

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E. O. 11652: N/-
TAGS: ELAB, CI
SUBJECT: UP-DATE -- THREE "DINAMICOS" JOIN WITH COMMUNISTS

REF: SANTIAGO 4247

1. THE GROUP OF TEN ("DINAMICOS") HELD AN EMOTION-CHARGED MEETING JUNE 6 TO DISCUSS THE ACTION OF THREE MEMBERS IN JOINING WITH COMMUNISTS AND OTHER LEFT LABOR LEADERS TO FORM THE NEW NATIONAL TRADE UNION COORDINATING BODY. HERNAN MERY, MANUEL JUAN SEPULVEDA WERE PRESENT AT THE MEETING; MANUEL BUSTOS, THE ANNOUNCED EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE COORDINATING BODY HAS NOT YET RETURNED FROM GERMANY. THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GROUP OF TEN PRESENTED A MOTION TO EXPEL MERY AND SEPULVEDA. BUSTOS WAS NOT INCLUDED IN THE MOTION SINCE HE IS NOT HERE. THE MEETING ENDED, HOWEVER, BEFORE A VOTE WAS TAKEN; A SECOND MEETING IS LIKELY LATER THIS WEEK. IN THE MEANTIME, THE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP OF TEN ARE GOING BACK TO THEIR EXECUTIVE BOARDS.

2. REPORTEDLY, MERY AND SEPULVEDA DEFENDED THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE NEW COORDINATING BODY ON THE GROUNDS THAT THEY HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO DO SO BY THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDC). THEY CLAIMED THAT THE NATURE OF THE PRESENT REGIME REQUIRES ALL "ANTI-FASCIST FORCES" TO WORK TOGETHER. THEY SAID FURTHER THAT

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THEY ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE COORDINATING BODY AS INDIVIDUAL TRADE UNION LEADERS AND NOT AS MEMBERS OF THE GROUP OF TEN AND THAT THIS WAS MADE VERY CLEAR IN THE PRESS CONFERENCE OF JUNE 2. THE PRESS, THEY SAID, HAD WILLFULLY DISTORTED WHAT WAS SAID AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE TO MAKE IT LOOK AS IF THE GROUP OF TEN WAS LINKING UP WITH THE COMMUNIST GROUP OF SEVEN.

3. EDUARDO RIOS FINALLY STORMED OUT OF THE MEETING ACCUSING BOTH MERY AND SEPULVEDA OF PLANNING TO EMIGRATE TO THE UNITED STATES AND LEAVING THE REST OF THE GROUP OF TEN TO TRY TO RECOVER FROM THIS SEVERE BLOW TO THEIR DEMOCRATIC AND INDEPENDENT POSTURE. THE MEETING BROKE UP AFTERWARDS AND NO PRESS STATEMENT WAS MADE.

4. COMMENT: TUCAPEL JIMENEZ HAS EXPRESSED TO US THE FEAR THAT THE PDC IS PLAYING A DOUBLE GAME. WHILE LEADERS SUCH AS RIOS AND ERNESTO VOGEL REMAIN FIRMLY WITHIN THE GROUP OF TEN, THOSE LEADERS ALIGNED WITH THE LEFT-WING OF THE PARTY (MERY, SEPULVEDA AND BUSTOS) ARE BEING URGED TO MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN TIES WITH THE COMMUNISTS AND SOCIALISTS. JIMENEZ SEES THE MAIN POINT OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF THE GROUP OF TEN GOING BACK TO THEIR EXECUTIVE BOARDS AS THE NEED TO GET A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING ON THE ROLE OF POLITICAL PARTIES IN THE GROUP'S ACTIONS.

5. AT PRESENT THE PREDOMINANT MOOD AMONG THE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP OF TEN IS THAT MERY AND SEPULVEDA (AND PROBABLY BUSTOS AFTER HE RETURNS AND HAS A CHANCE TO DEFEND HIMSELF) SHOULD NO LONGER BE INCLUDED IN THE GROUP. THEY WOULD LIKE, HOWEVER, A STATEMENT SIGNED BY THEM, AS WELL AS THE OTHER "DINAMICOS", DISAVOWING ANY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE GROUP OF TEN AND THE NEW COORDINATING BOARD. IF MERY AND SEPULVEDA SIGN SUCH A STATEMENT THEY WILL PROBABLY NOT BE FORMALLY EXPELLED, BUT RATHER SIMPLY NOT INVITED TO FUTURE MEETINGS.

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